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CANADA AND THE WAR

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THE INAUGURATION

OF THE

SECOND VICTORY LOAN

Addresses Broadcast by

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING, M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada

AND

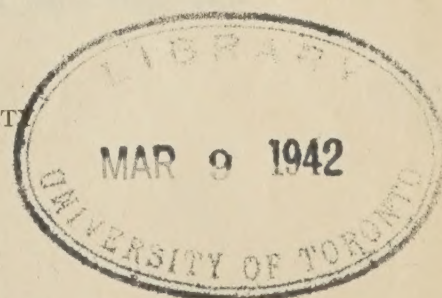
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
President of the United States


FEBRUARY 15, 1942

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THE SECOND VICTORY LOAN

ADDRESS BY

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING, M.P.

Prime Minister of Canada

To-morrow the people of Canada will begin to subscribe to a war loan of \$600,000,000. Never was there a time when the need was so great, and so imperative for every man and every woman to make the utmost contribution to the winning of a war. Almost every nation on earth has taken sides in the present struggle. At this very hour, the fate of mankind hangs in the balance. Reverses of the recent past give cause for the greatest concern. The issue of the world-wide conflict is in no place certain. Because it is in no place certain, the very existence of the free world, the survival of free countries and of free men is at stake. The forces of freedom are everywhere beset by the forces of aggression. Whether world chaos will follow in the wake of universal destruction, or world security be established, will depend upon the contribution of every nation still possessing its freedom.

Neutrality a Snare; Isolation an Illusion

The contribution of each free nation is the sum of the contributions of its individual citizens. There was a time, and it is not so very long ago, when some nations believed, or seemed to believe, that by maintaining a strict neutrality they might continue to enjoy security. The fortunes of battle since the outbreak of war; the fate of nations that to-day lie prostrate beneath the heel of the aggressor; the terrific tasks which face the nations still battling for their freedom—all these go to show that neutrality has become a snare and isolation an illusion.

What, however, many have still to learn is that in a fight unto death, neutrality and isolation are no more possible for individuals than they are for nations. One has only to look at the conquered countries to see how inescapable, for every individual, are the consequences of defeat.

The conflict to-day encompasses the globe. The enemy has demonstrated how powerful his combined forces are on land, at sea and in the air—not in one part of the world only, but on the waters of the Atlantic, and the Pacific, and on the continents beyond their shores. From every continent and from every ocean, the call comes for more planes, more tanks, more munitions, more ships, more food, more men. It is a call to every individual to make the utmost personal contribution in that form of service for which he or she is best fitted. It is equally a call to every man and woman to make, through taxation and through loans, the largest financial contribution of which they are capable.

The Nature of the Contribution

It is well that in subscribing to the loan, all should have a full appreciation of the contribution they are making. First of all, the proceeds of the loan will make possible a national war effort on a scale that otherwise could not be achieved. Secondly, they will make possible a greater combined effort on the part of the United Nations. It is true that the resources, the men and materials of the United Nations are far greater than those of the enemy nations. It is, notwithstanding, also true that in actual immediate fighting power the enemy is still stronger than the forces of freedom arrayed against him. The proceeds of the loan are required to transform materials and manpower into actual fighting strength in terms of foodstuffs, weapons, munitions, ships, planes, and trained fighting men. It is because our enemies have increased in numbers and in power that the need for increasing our actual fighting strength in all these directions is greater to-day than at any time since the outbreak of war. Every enemy gain now makes the battle that much harder to win in the end. For that reason money cannot be too quickly or too largely subscribed.

In Canada we have already done much, but we must now strive harder than ever before. We must make sure that our response to the needs of the hour, as individuals and as a nation is the strongest response that we can give. We have our part to play on many fronts. Of these the financial sector of our home front is now—this week—of first importance. On this front the battle must be completely won if, in ways already planned, our utmost effort is to be achieved.

Canada's Wartime Tasks

That effort demands the expansion of Canada's navy as fast as ships can be acquired, and the men trained to man them. It demands that the new formations of the Canadian Army shall be

raised and trained, and the existing units and formations kept up to strength so that Canada's Army overseas will be a thoroughly modern, well-balanced and hard-hitting striking force. It demands that airmen shall be trained to the utmost limit of Canada's gigantic air training facilities. It demands that the defences of Canada's coasts and of vulnerable areas shall be continuously strengthened. We must provide the immense sums required for the upkeep and expansion of our navy, army and air force.

For our own armed forces, we must provide food, ships, planes, tanks, guns, equipment and munitions of all kinds. But that is only the beginning of Canada's productive task. All these machines and munitions of war must be produced in ever-larger quantities. We are producing them not only for ourselves, but, also, in varying quantities, for Britain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the United States, and other of the Allied Powers. We have a large and growing share in the tasks of feeding Britain.

We have undertaken to provide one billion dollars to pay the Canadian producers of the war supplies and the foodstuffs which we have offered to Britain as a contribution to the defeat of the enemy.

Achievement of a New World Order

But Canada's war loan has an even wider significance. It is essential not only to the immediate prosecution of the war, and the ultimate attainment of victory, but equally to the achievement of a new world order. On more than one occasion, I have said that if a new world order is not already on its way before the war is over, we may look for it in vain. Happily that new world order is already on its way. The forces which have combined to work such havoc throughout the world, have equally combined to bring together the forces of freedom.

To-day the British and American peoples are associated in a close union to preserve and to restore the freedom of mankind. In that union will be found the foundation of the new world order. That union has been achieved so quickly and so completely that it is difficult to realize how significant it is to our own and to the world's future.

The principles upon which the new order will rest have already found expression in the Atlantic Charter, signed at sea, in August last, by the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Great Britain.

The spirit of mutual goodwill and unity of purpose reflected in the Atlantic Charter, found further expression during Mr. Churchill's recent visit to this continent. It was expressed in the warmth of

the welcome accorded to the Prime Minister of Great Britain by the peoples of the United States and of Canada. It has found noteworthy expression in the co-operative manner in which the problems of wartime strategy and command have been worked out at Washington and Ottawa.

The mutual understanding and goodwill, so evident throughout Mr. Churchill's momentous visit, have established a firm foundation for the combined war effort, not merely of the nations of the British Commonwealth and of the United States, but also of the twenty-six nations which to-day are united as one. It is upon this foundation of mutual trust and mutual aid that nations may hope to build an enduring order of peace and goodwill.

Free men throughout the world are to-day united in one great partnership. In that partnership lies the hope of crushing the evil forces which threaten civilization. In that partnership also lies the hope of the future of mankind.

The Prime Minister of Great Britain and the President of the United States

Of the part which, through the years, Canada has played in bringing about the closer union between the British and American peoples, much has been said by the Prime Minister of Great Britain and the President of the United States.

Mr. Churchill had planned to participate in this broadcast. It is not difficult to understand the exceptional pressure on his time due to war developments of the moment. I am sure all of us would wish to spare Mr. Churchill any additional burden.

I am happy to say that we are to be honoured in the opening of the present Victory Loan campaign by a personal word from our good neighbour and good friend, the President of the United States. Nothing could better symbolize our common aim and purpose than this gracious act of friendship and encouragement.

As we listen to the President's words, we will appreciate more than ever how true it is that nothing that has happened since the beginning of the war is so significant for the future of mankind as the combined effort, in the cause of world freedom, of the British Commonwealth and the United States.

On behalf of the Government and people of Canada, I wish to thank Mr. Roosevelt for this latest expression of the goodwill towards Canada which he has always cherished, and which he has expressed in so many ways.

I have now the honour to introduce the President of the United States.

THE SECOND VICTORY LOAN

ADDRESS BY

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

President of the United States

I am speaking to my neighbours of Canada—this evening—in regard to something that is a Canadian matter—only because of a personal relationship, which goes back fifty-eight long years, when my family began taking me every summer to spend several months on a delightful island off the coast of New Brunswick. I hope that my privilege of free and intimate discourse across our border will always continue. I trust that it will always be appreciated as sincerely as I appreciate it to-night.

It is not merely as good neighbours that we speak to each other in these eventful days, but as partners in a great enterprise which concerns us equally and in which we are equally pledged to the uttermost sacrifice and effort.

Mutual Pledges

In an atmosphere of peace four years ago I offered you an assurance that the people of this country would not stand idly by if domination of Canadian soil were ever threatened by an aggressor. My old friend, your Prime Minister, responded with an intimation that Canada whose vast territories flank our entire northern border would man that border against any attack upon us. These mutual pledges are now being implemented. Instead of defending merely our shores and our territories we now are joined with the other free peoples of the world against an armed conspiracy to wipe out free institutions everywhere they exist.

Freedom—our freedom and yours—is under attack on many fronts. You and we together are engaged to resist the attack on any front where our strength can best be brought to bear.

Canada's Part in the Fight for Liberty

The part that Canada is playing in this fight for the liberty of man is worthy of your traditions and ours. We, your neighbours, have been profoundly impressed by reports that have come to us

setting forth the magnitude and nature of your effort as well as the valiant spirit which supports it. If that effort is to be measured in dollars, then you have already paid out in two years, more than twice as much as you had spent in the whole four years of the last war.

Moreover, these reports show that one Canadian in every 21 of your entire population is now in the fighting forces and that one in every 29 is a volunteer for service anywhere in the world. It should give us all new strength and new courage to learn that in the swift mobilization your army has increased nearly twentyfold, your navy fifteenfold, your air force twenty-fivefold. We rejoice to know that the Air Training Plan which you commenced to organize two years ago is now the main source of reinforcement for Britain's air force and that its graduates are fighting on almost every front in the world. Other reports disclose in equally impressive terms the all out effort which Canada is making in the common cause of liberty.

Yours are the achievements of a great nation. They require no praise from me—but they get that praise from me nevertheless. I understate the case when I say that we, in this country, contemplating what you have done and the spirit in which you have done it are proud to be your neighbours.

Closer Alignment of the Free Peoples

From the outset you have had our friendship and understanding, and our collaboration on an increasing scale. We have gone forward together with increasing understanding and mutual sympathy and goodwill.

More recent events have brought us into even closer alignment; and at Washington a few weeks ago, with the assistance of Britain's Prime Minister and your own, we arrived at understandings which mean that the United Nations will fight and work and endure together until our common purpose is accomplished and the sun shines down once more upon a world where the weak will be safe and the strong will be just.

There is peril ahead for us all, and sorrow for many. But our cause is right, our goal is worthy, our strength is great and growing. Let us then march forward together, facing danger, bearing sacrifice, competing only in the effort to share even more fully in the great task laid upon us all. Let us, remembering the price that some have paid for our survival, make our own contribution worthy to lie beside theirs upon the altar of man's faith.